

**Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee**  
Judicial Conference of Indiana

**Minutes**  
May 3, 2002

The Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center on Friday, May 3, 2002 from 12:00 Noon until 3:00 p.m.

1.     Members present.     Mary Beth Bonaventura, W. Timothy Crowley, Steve David, Mary R. Harper, James R. Heuer, Lynn Murray, James W. Payne, Daniel L. Pflum, Julian L. Ridlen, Viola J. Taliaferro, and Stephen M. Sims, Chair
2.     Minutes approved.     The minutes for the meeting on March 1, 2002 were approved.
3.     Guests present.     Mr. John J. Boyce, Director, Office of Family and Children, Eric Vermeulen, Donna Wilbur, and John Wood, FSSA; Jennifer Benning and David J. Destefano, Maximus, Consultants to FSSA; Carol Hostetter and Gail Folaron, I.U. School of Social Work were also present.
4.     Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz and Anne Jordan provided the committee with staff assistance.
5.     FSSA.
  - a.     Mr. John Boyce, recently appointed Director, Office of Family and Children, FSSA introduced himself to members of the committee. He discussed the need for a new IV-E interagency agreement between local Offices of Family and Children and probation departments to use Title IV-E monies for delinquents.
  - b.     Ms. Benning discussed the following areas that are not in the current agreement which need to be included: (1) Define who is responsible for placement and supervision; (2) Address the permanency plan; (3) Include language concerning "contrary to the welfare/best interests" in placement orders; (4) Specific elements must be in the case plan; (5) Define who is responsible for determining eligibility of the child; (6) Termination of parental rights must be addressed; and (7) Determine who will keep the case records of the child.
  - c.     The committee discussed the payment for a CHINS that later commits a delinquent act, problems with courts giving data to OFC to enter for delinquents that does not get entered, the poor ICWIS/QUEST interface in St. Joseph county, the need to cross-train OFC and probation workers, and negotiation of parts of the draft IV-E agreement not required by federal law or regulation (Ex: probation making a determination within 5 days after the petition is filed whether there is a reasonable possibility the child will be removed from the home). Judge Sims asked Judge Payne to contact John Boyce to revise the draft IV-E agreement for the next meeting.
  - d.     Mr. Boyce explained Indiana agreed to pay about five million dollars a year for four years under a contract with Maximus. Maximus assists Indiana to maintain federal monies allocated to Indiana for foster care, family preservation, adoption assistance, licensing and other areas and increase state revenues and county reimbursements in these areas.

6. Survey. Carol Hostetter and Gail Folaron, I.U. School of Social Work, reported they had been hired by FSSA to conduct a survey to determine competencies and the educational needs of OFC caseworkers. They agreed to survey various stakeholders, conduct focus groups, and others for this determination. Committee members agreed to complete the survey distributed by them and make suggestions for improvement within the next week.

7. Juvenile Judges Conference. Mr. Bercovitz reported one session of the Annual Conference of Juvenile Court Judges (June 20-21, 2002) would include discussion of examples of cases that illustrate the overlap of CHINS and Delinquency cases. The committee members agreed to send sample cases of this type, one page or less, to the Judicial Center with questions they have about them.

8. New Protective Order statutes. Mr. Bercovitz distributed selected juvenile portions of the new protective order statute to committee members along with draft forms. They agreed the reference to IC 31-32 in section 66 of HEA 1232 should not be deleted and no form need be drafted for the injunctive relief provided for in IC 31-32.

9. Ethics question. Mr. Bercovitz distributed an announcement by Correctional Management Company (CMC) of a scholarship for children of probation or DFC employees. CMC operates the Kokomo Academy, the Ladoga Academy, and the Muncie Reception and Diagnostic Center. The committee agreed it would be unethical for a probation office employee's child to take a scholarship from this company.

10. Next meeting dates. The committee members agreed to hold the next meetings of the committee on the following Fridays: June 7, 2002; and November 1, 2002 from 12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m. Members can bring lunch to these meetings. They also agreed to meet Wednesday, September 11, 2002, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in conjunction with the judicial conference in Ft. Wayne. They also agreed to cancel their November meeting if an ISBA meeting on juvenile justice occurs on November 21.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director  
Juvenile and Family Law